

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 05902 181458Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SAB-02 EB-08 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 COME-00
/077 W

-----083523 182102Z /65

R 181350Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3231
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
USSOUTHCOM
PANCANAL

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECON, EGEN, PN
SUBJECT: INDUSTRIAL LEADERS VIEWS ON THE ECONOMY

REF: PANAMA A-079

SUMMARY: NEW PRESIDENT OF PANAMANIAN BUSINESS ORGANIZATION
SEES BEST POSSIBILITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT UNDER MINIMUM GOVERNMENT
INVOLVEMENT.

1. THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE PANAMANIAN INDUSTRIALISTS SYNDICATE,
LIC. PEDRO ROGNONI, IN HIS INAUGURATION SPEECH LAST WEEK FORESAW
UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES FOR FUTURE GROWTH OF PANAMA IF BASED
ON DYNAMIC FREE ENTERPRISE. ROGNONI CALLED THE BALANCE BETWEEN
POLITICAL POWER AND ECONOMIC POWER "DELICATE" AND STRONGLY
FAVORED THE SEPARATION OF THESE POWERS FOR BEST ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL PROGRESS.

2. ROGNONI SAID THAT APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES
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PAGE 02 PANAMA 05902 181458Z

WOULD BE TO CREATE JOBS WHERE NECESSARY OR TO DEVELOP
AREAS WHICH PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IS UNABLE TO DEVELOP,
BUT WITHOUT OPENLY COMPETING WITH PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.
ROGNONI CONCEDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S PRESENT REGULATORY MEASURES
WERE "NOT PART OF A PLAN TO DESTROY THE BUSINESS
COMMUNITY" AND ACKNOWLEDGED THE NEED FOR BUSINESS-GOVERNMENT
COOPERATION ON THE BASIS OF MUTUAL RESPECT, BUT HIS THRUST

SEEMED SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF HIS PREDECESSOR, JUAN JOSE AMADO. IN A MAJOR SPEECH IN MID-MAY AMADO CALLED FOR THE CREATION OF A "MOST IMPORTANT" NEW ORGANISM, A HIGH-LEVEL COORDINATING MECHANISM WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT WORKING TOGETHER. AMADO SAID THAT BUSINESS SUFFERED FROM CONFUSION AND LACK OF COORDINATION IN THE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC POLICIES. (REFAIR).

3. ROGNONI SEEMED TO BE SAYING THAT THE PRIVATE SECTOR COULD HANDLE THE ECONOMY IF THE GOVERNMENT JUST WOULD NOT INTERFERE. ROGNONI ALSO SEEMED MORE OPTIMISTIC THAN HIS PREDECESSOR WHO IN MAY NOTED WITH CONCERN THAT GROWTH IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR HAD DIMINISHED, CREATING CRITICAL CONDITIONS WHOSE EFFECTS COULD BE SEEN IN VARIOUS PROBLEMS IMPEDING EFFORTS TOWARD SOCIAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE COUNTRY. ROGNONI HAS CONFIDENCE THAT CONTROL OF THE ECONOMY BY THE "DYNAMIC AND EFFICIENT" PRIVATE SECTOR WILL RESULT IN THE BEST NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND OPTIMUM UTILIZATION OF THE NATION'S NATURAL RESOURCES.

JORDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, SPEECHES, ECONOMIC CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770298-1306
Format: TEL
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770849/aaaabove.tel
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Litigation History:
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